## Listing of Claims:

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:*

1. (Currently Amended) A method for implementing an application on a client computer system, said method comprising steps of:

   a) receiving at said client computer system a plurality of text files wherein each of said text files defines a component of said application;

   b) executing a program resident on said client computer system, wherein said program comprises instructions for **interacting with a server in accordance with**:

   (1) checking automatically and periodically for updated versions of said text files;

   (2) receiving automatically any updated versions of said text files in response to said program checking for said updated versions when said updated versions are available; and

   (3) compiling automatically and periodically a combination of said updated versions of said text files to create said application, wherein said application is stored on said client computer in a compiled form so as to be executable independent from said program in a runtime environment independent from said program; and

   c) executing said application on said runtime environment independent from said program and ~~asynchronously with respect to said compiling step~~ **independent from the program interacting with the server**.

2. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said text files use an Extensible Markup Language (XML) syntax.

3. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said client computer system is communicatively coupled to a server computer system in a computer system network, wherein said server system provides a central source for managing and distributing applications and modifications to applications.

4.      (Original) The method as recited in claim 3 wherein said plurality of text files received in said step a) are received from said server computer system.

5.      (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 3 comprising a step of:
        executing said application on said client computer system in an asynchronous mode, wherein said asynchronous mode comprises:
                i)      sending a request from said client computer system to said server computer system; and
                ii)     executing said application in parallel with and while waiting for a response to said request without interruption of application functionality.

6.      (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 3 comprising a step of:
        executing said application on said client computer system in a connectionless mode in the absence of communication between said client computer system and said server computer system.

7.      (Canceled)

8.      (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 1 comprising a step of:
        receiving a new text file defining a component of said application, wherein said new text file is used in lieu of a previously received text file to modify said application.

9.      (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said component of said application pertains to a graphical user interface.

10.     (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said component of said application pertains to communication preferences.

11.     (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said component of said application pertains to data management.

12.    (Original) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein said component of said application pertains to logic used with said application.

13.    (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:
   a bus;
   a computer-readable memory unit coupled to said bus; and
   a processor coupled to said bus, said processor for executing a method for implementing an application comprising:
      a)    receiving at said computer system a plurality of text files wherein each of said text files defines a component of said application;
      b)    executing a program resident on said computer system, wherein said program comprises instructions for **interacting with a server in accordance with**:
         (1) checking automatically and periodically for updated versions of said text files;
         (2) receiving automatically any updated versions of said text files in response to said program checking for said updated versions when said updated versions are available; and
         (3) compiling automatically and periodically a combination of said updated versions of said text files to create said application, wherein said application is stored on said computer system in a compiled form so as to be executable independent from said program in a runtime environment independent from said program; and
      c)    executing said application on said runtime environment independent from said program and asynchronously with respect to said compiling step **independent from the program interacting with the server**.

14.    (Original) The computer system of Claim 13 wherein said text files use an Extensible Markup Language (XML) syntax.

15.    (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 13 wherein said computer system is communicatively coupled to said server computer system in a computer system

network, wherein said server system provides a central source for managing and distributing applications and modifications to applications.

16.     (Original) The computer system of claim 15 wherein said plurality of text files received in said step a) of said method are received from said server computer system.

17.     (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 15 wherein said method comprises:

executing said application on said client computer system in an asynchronous mode, wherein said asynchronous mode comprises:

i)      sending a request from said computer system to said server computer system; and

ii)     executing said application in parallel with and while waiting for a response to said request without interruption of application functionality.

18.     (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 15 wherein said method comprises:

executing said application on said computer system in a connectionless mode in the absence of communication between said computer system and said server computer system.

19.     (Original) The computer system of claim 13 wherein said plurality of text files received in said step a) of said method are particular to said computer system.

20.     (Original) The computer system of claim 13 wherein said method comprises:

receiving a new text file defining a component of said application, wherein said new text file is used in lieu of a previously received text file to modify said application.

21.     (Original) The computer system of claim 13 wherein said component of said application pertains to a graphical user interface.

22.     (Original) The computer system of claim 13 wherein said component of said application pertains to communication preferences.

23.     (Original) The computer system of claim 13 wherein said component of said application pertains to data management.

24.     (Original) The computer system of claim 13 wherein said component of said application pertains to logic used with said application.

25.     (Currently Amended) A computer-usable medium having computer-readable program code embodied therein for causing a computer system to perform a method comprising code for:

a)     installing on said computer system a plurality of text files wherein each of said text files defines a component of said application;

b)     installing a program on said computer system, wherein said program comprises instructions for **interacting with a server in accordance with**:

(1) checking automatically and periodically for updated versions of said text files;

(2) receiving automatically any updated versions of said text files in response to said program checking for said updated versions when said updated versions are available; and

(3) compiling automatically and periodically a combination of said updated versions of said text files to create said application, wherein said application is stored on said computer system in a compiled form so as to be executable independent from said program in a runtime environment independent from said program; and

c)     executing said application on said runtime environment independent from said program and ~~asynchronously with respect to said compiling step~~ **independent from the program interacting with the server**.

26 – 38.  (Canceled)